

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Official Action dated 06 July 2006 has been carefully considered, along with cited references, applicable sections of the Patent Act, Patent Rules, the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and relevant decisional law.

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 12-15, it is unclear whether the material is intended to be a mix of the polymers, at least one of the polymers, or a copolymer of the materials listed.

In response, claims 12-15 have been amended to be dependent on claim 11 which includes said thermoplastic polymers claimed therein, and have been amended to be a mixture of the two polymers, in order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claims 1-7 and 10-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irion et al. (U.S. Patent 2,714,571) in view of Funaki et al. (U.S. Patent 5,833,792).

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irion et al. and Funaki et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Wevers et al. (U.S. Publication 2005/0106965A1).

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is significantly different from that of the cited arts as can be seen from their respective structures. Applicant's invention as specified in the

amended claims 1-3 and 6-15 is patentably distinguishable over these references when taken either singularly or in combination for the following reasons:

In paragraph 4 of the Official Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irion et al. in view of Funaki et al., and in paragraph 5 of the Official Action, the Examiner has further rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Irion et al. and Funaki et al. and further in view of Wevers et al.

In light of the comments presented herein, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the subject matters as claimed in claims 4 and 5.

For claim 1, the Examiner cites Irion et al. as an example of extruding a polymer (17) downwardly onto the fabric at a nip between a cooled lamination roller (13) and the carrying roller, but the Examiner has pointed out that Irion et al. does not disclose extruding the polymer onto the surface of the lamination roller prior to contacting the fabric at the nip.

The Examiner then further cites Funaki et al. as an example disclosing extruding a polymer film onto another polymer film by contacting it with the second film before the nip, extruding it into the nip, or contacting the extruded material with the lamination roller prior before reaching the nip.

Regarding claims 4 and 5, the Examiner states that Irion et al. discloses cooling the lamination roller using a coolant.

However, as disclosed in col. 2 lines 13-21 of Irion et al., the internal roll coolant or other similar means are provided for

maintaining the polyethylene-contacting roll at a cool temperature in order to solidify the film and to cool the film to a non-tacky temperature before the film is led away from the polyethylene-contacting roll and in order to prevent sticking and left-off.

By contrast, in Applicant's invention, as amended in the amended claims 1-3 and 6-15, the passage (87) is formed or provided in the lamination roller (8) for receiving the cooling water or fluid and for cooling the lamination roller (8) and thus the heated or melted soft film or coating (1) when the coating (1) is engaged on the segment (83) of the outer peripheral portion (81) of the lamination roller (8) before the cooled coating (1) is pressed onto the textile carrier (2), for preventing the cooled film (1) from completely or fully penetrated into the textile carrier (2) to a greater extent.

The cited arts fail to teach a lamination roller (8) including a passage (87) formed or provided in the lamination roller (8) for receiving the cooling water or fluid and for cooling the lamination roller (8) and thus the heated or melted soft film or coating (1) when the coating (1) is engaged on the segment (83) of the outer peripheral portion (81) of the lamination roller (8) before the cooled coating (1) is pressed onto the textile carrier (2), for preventing the cooled film (1) from completely or fully penetrated into the textile carrier (2) to a greater extent. The applicant's invention is different from that of the cited arts and has improved over the cited arts.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is patentably distinguishable over the cited arts and that the application is now in

condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Courtesy and cooperation of Examiner MUSSER are appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Charles E. Baxley

CHARLES E. BAXLEY

Attorney of Record

USPTO Reg. 20,149

90 John Street – 3rd Floor

New York, N.Y. 10038

TEL: (212) 791-7200

FAX: (212) 791-7276

Date: New York, N.Y.